

English 470
Theories of Rhetoric and Composition
Purdue University/ Spring 2003
Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:30-11:45 in Bearing B291

Instructor: Shirley Rose

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Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:30-2:30 and by appointment

Course Description

"A general introduction to the field of rhetoric and composition. Overview of studies in written discourse, including studies of the processes and contexts of written discourse as well as methods of research in the field. No prerequisites."

--*Purdue University SLA Catalog*

Course Objectives

- introduce undergraduate students to the academic field of rhetoric and composition
- provide an understanding of the key issues in the study of written discourse, especially with respect to processes and contexts for developing rhetorical knowledges and abilities
- provide a basic understanding of the historical development of the field of rhetoric and composition and its relationship to other academic disciplines
- help students develop a rudimentary understanding of the qualities and features of written discourse
- provide students with a general knowledge of methods in research in rhetoric and composition
- provide students with greater insight into the broader field of English studies

Course Texts

- *College Composition and Communication* 53.2 (December 2001)—available online at <http://www.ncte.org/cc/2/53.2>
- Selections from Aristotle, Cicero and Quintilian--available online
- Selections from William A. Covino and David A. Jolliffe's *Rhetoric: Concepts, Definitions, Boundaries* (Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 1995) --available at Follett's
- Readings selected by class members—print copies or electronic access to be provided by colloquy leaders

Course Work and Course Grade (subject to change with advance notice from instructor)
(Detailed descriptions, instructions, and evaluation criteria for the following coursework will be provided)

- 35% Reading Journal entries and out-of-class exercises (credit/ no credit)
- 15% Participation in class discussions and in-class group exercises (credit/ no credit)
- 35% Leadership of Colloquy on Shared Reading Selection
- 15% Take-home final essay exam *or* synthesis, commentary and reflection on Colloquy (students may choose either option)

Course Policies

The following policies reflect a course design that relies on students' full participation in class meetings and timely completion of assignments.

Late Work: To receive credit, Reading Journal entries must be ready on the date the reading assignment is discussed in class. A late out-of-class assignment will not receive more than one-half of the possible credit for the assignment. Missed in-class exercises cannot be made-up. Leadership of Colloquy on Shared Reading Selection must be provided on the day scheduled in order to receive full credit.

Attendance: I will keep records of your attendance. I do not distinguish between "excused" and "unexcused" absences. You may miss four class meetings (the equivalent of two weeks of class) for any reason. Additional absences, *regardless of the reason*, will result in a lower grade for the course. If you know in advance that you will have to miss more than two weeks of class, you should drop the course. Save up your absences in case you need them for an emergency. I will treat habitual tardiness in the same way I treat absences. Scheduled individual conferences are required; missing a conference is equivalent to missing class.

Other: For your own records, make a photocopy of each written assignment before submitting the original for review or evaluation.

Course Calendar on next page

Calendar of Assignments

Revised calendar as of **February 20, 2003**

(Subject to change with advance notification)

English 470/Spring 2003

Prof. Shirley Rose

Week	Tuesday	Thursday
Current Theoretical Issues in Rhetoric and Composition		
Week 1	1/14 Introduction to Course	1/16 Initial discussion of <i>CCC</i> contents
Week 2	1/21 In-depth discussion of <i>CCC</i> articles	1/23 In-depth discussion of <i>CCC</i> articles continued
Week 3	1/28 "Part I: An Introduction to Rhetoric," Covino and Joliffe	1/30 Selections from Aristotle
Ancient Rhetorics		
Week 4	2/4 Selections from Cicero	2/6 Selections from Quintilian
Week 5	2/11 Jarratt (Covino and Joliffe)	2/13 Planning for Colloquies
Week 6	2/18 Michael Walker: Gage's "Why Write"	2/20 Heather Klopfen: Szeman's "Rhetoric of Culture"
Week 7	2/25 Erica Mueller: Farrell's "A Defense for Requiring Standard English" (p. 667)	2/27 Jay Blackman: Welch's "Electrifying Classical Rhetoric" (p. 763)
Week 8	3/4 Nim Kyger: Joseph's "Shakespeare's Use of the [Renaissance] Theory [of Composition]"(243)	3/6 Emmy Mittler
Week 9	3/11 Abby Jones	3/13 Charles James: Bolter's "The Electronic Hiding Place" (p. 785)
Spring Break	3/18 No Class	3/20 No Class
Week 10	3/25 Anna Herkamp: Gates' "Integrating the American Mind" (342)	3/27 Levi Haynes
Week 11	4/1	4/3 Mike Michonski
Week 12	4/8 Jessica Stark: Eagleton's "Political Criticism" (p. 500)	4/10 John Ehrenfeld
Week 13	4/15 Natalie Colter: Kowal's "Reading Lao-tzu as Rhetoric" (p. 364) or hooks' "Culture to Culture" (p. 328)	4/17 Jenny Schuster: Gross's "Rhetorical Analysis" (p. 598)
Week 14	4/22 Chris McKibbin: Fine's "You Can't Just Say That the Only Ones..." (p. 632)	4/24 Roxie Hartman: Sedgwick's "Axiom 5..." (p. 411)
Week 15	4/29 Karen Willdermood: Bordwell's "Rhetoric in Action" (p 484)	5/1